



**BRECKNOCK
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1967

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BRECONSHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary conditions and the state of the Public Health in the Breconshire Rural District during the year 1967.

In this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding Public Health and preventive medicine, and I have included comments on the subjects specifically requested in Circular 1/68(Wales) by the Welsh Board of Health.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Members of the Council for their helpful consideration and cooperation in all matters affecting Public Health. Also the Officers of the Council for their help in all matters appertaining to the duties of the Public Health Department.

I am,

Mr Chairman and Members,
Your Obedient Servant,

Creighton E. Edwards,
B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Officers of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health - C.E. Edwards, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector
 & Surveyor W.J. Rees. F.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

Additional Public Health Inspector
 and Deputy Surveyor R. Taylor, M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H., M.A.P.H.I.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Population: (Registrar Generals' Estimate) 1967 - 6,930.

Acreage (1961 Census)

Rateable Value as at 1st April 1967 - £218,634.

<u>Product of a Penny Rate</u>	-	1966/67	-	£881 . 0 . 5
		1967/68	-	£789 . 16 . 0

<u>Rate in the Pound</u>	-	1966/67	--	14/4d
		1967/68	-	14/4d

Water Rate - Supplies for Domestic Purposes - Annual Charge of 2/-d in the £ on the Rateable Value (or 75% thereof in the case of premises used solely for business, trade or manufacturing purposes or for the exercise of functions by any public authority and not supplied by meter) subject to a minimum annual charge of £1 .10 .0 per separately rated hereditament.

Number of Council Houses included in domestic dwelling figures -353

SECTION A

	Brecknock R.D.C.			Breconshire County Council
<u>BIRTHS</u>	Male	Female	Total	
No. of Legitimate Live Births	47	58	105	700
No. of Illegitimate Live Births	4	5	9	36
Total Live Births	51	63	114	736
Birth Rate per 1000 Pop. 1967 (Crude)			16.5	13.57
" " " " (Correct)			20.6	15.06
Registrar Generals Comparability Factor			1.25	1.11
No. of Still Births Legitimate	1	-	1	16
No. of Still Births Illegitimate	-	-	-	-
Illegitimate Live Births per Cent of Total Live Births			5.17	4.89
Total Live & Still Births -			115	752
Still Births Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births -			9	21.27
<u>DEATHS</u>				
Total No of Deaths	52	25	77	703
Crude Death Rate per 1000 Pop.			11.1	12.96
Registrar Generals Comparability Factor			0.85	0.89
Corrected Death Rate per 1000 Pop.			9.4	11.5
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths from Maternal Causes			Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births			Nil	Nil

VITAL STATISTICS

(Continued)

	Brecknock R.D.C.			Breconshire County Council
	Male	Female	Total	
<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 1 years of age :-				
Legitimate	2	-	2	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births			18	12.22
Total :				
Legitimate			18	10.86
Illegitimate			-	1.35
<u>NEO NATAL MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :-				
Legitimate	2	-	2	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1
Total	2	-	2	7
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births :			18	9.51
<u>EARLY NEO NATAL MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths of Infant under 1 week of age:				
Legitimate	2	-	2	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1
Total :	2	-	2	7
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age plus No. of Still Births :	2	-	2	7
No. of Still Births	1	-	1	16
Perinatal Mortality Rate			26	31.25
<u>CANCER DEATHS</u>				
No. of Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms & Lymphatic Neoplasms	6	2	8	89
Cancer Death Rate			1.15	1.64

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1. Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-
2. Tuberculosis (Other Forms.)	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other Infective or Parasitic Disease	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	-
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	-
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	-
14. Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	3	2
15. Leukaemia & Al leukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous Systems	3	11
18. Coronary Disease. Angina.	13	4
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease.	3	1
20. Other Heart Disease	3	2
21. Other Circulatory Disease	5	3
22. Influenza.	1	-
23. Pneumonia.	1	1
24. Bronchitis.	4	1
25. Other Disease of Respiratory System	-	-
26. Ulcer of Stomach & Doudenum.	1	-
27. Gastritis, Enteritis, & Diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis & Nephrosis	2	-
29. Hyperplasia of Prostrate	-	-
30. Pregnancy, Abortion, Childbirth	-	-
31. Congenital, Malformations	2	-
32. Other Defined and Ill defined Diseases	2	-
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	-
34. Suicide.	1	-
35. Homicide and Operations of War	-	-
36. All Other Accidents.	2	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
ALL CAUSES	52	25
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SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Public Health Officers

Mr. W.J.Rees remained as your Chief Public Health Inspector and Mr R.Taylor as your Additional Public Health Inspector.

Laboratory Facilities

During the year laboratory facilities were available at Cardiff, Newport, Carmarthen, Swansea, Aberystwyth and Brecon. Water samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen whilst any investigation required in the control of infectious disease was performed by the Public Health Laboratory at Cardiff. All the milk sampling including the milk examined for the presence of tuberculosis was done by the Public Health Laboratory at Cardiff.

Nursing Facilities

The County Council are responsible for the provision of ambulance facilities, home nursing, maternity and child welfare, immunisation and the treatment of minor ailments, dental, eye and orthopaedic defects.

Hospitals

The hospital needs of the residents of the district, for all disease apart from infectious disease, are provided by the Brecon War Memorial Hospital. A certain number of patients are also treated in the large hospitals situated at Cardiff and Swansea.

The arrangements for the treatment of infectious disease remains the same as in previous years. Merthyr Borough Council treat the patients from the district suffering from infectious disease and these are conveyed to Merthyr in ambulances maintained by Merthyr Borough Council. These arrangements are proving extremely satisfactory.

For the treatment of cases of smallpox, arrangements have been made by the Welsh Board of Health for beds to be available at the Penrhys Hospital, Rhondda.

SECTION C

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifications.

The following cases other than Tuberculosis were notified during 1967.

<u>DISEASES</u>	<u>No. OF CASES</u>
Measles	28
Whooping Cough	1
Scarlet Fever	-

Tuberculosis a schedule of new cases and removals from the Register is given below.

New Cases				Removals from the Register			
Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	1	-	-	3	1	-	-

Number of cases remaining on Register 31st December 1967

Respiratory			Non Respiratory		
M	F	Total	M	F	Total.
12	10	22	-	-	-

SCHOOLS No schools were closed during 1967, in consequence of infectious Disease.

Venereal Disease The County Council has an agreement with the General & Eye Hospital, Swansea, for the treatment of these cases. The tracing of contacts and the folling up of defaulters is the responsibility of the County Council.

SECTION D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supplies

The water in the district is supplied mainly by the South-East Breconshire Water Board, together with a number of private water supplies.

Number of inspections of water supplies	35
Number of satisfactory water samples	21
Number of unsatisfactory water samples	14

Drainage and Sewerage

The arrangements for sewerage disposal in the Rural area are are reasonably adequate.

Properties connected to main drainage.

The response of owners to arrange for their properties to be connected to the Councils' new sewers is fairly satisfactory. During the year the following number of properties were provided with main drainage.

Aber Village.....	2
Talybont	3
Llanddew.....	7
Llanspyddid.....	22
Cradoc.....	1

These additional figures brought the total at the end of the year t :-

Llanspyddid	23
Bwlch	15
Aber Village.....	8
Llanfihangel Nantbran.....	10
Cray	19
Llanddew.....	35
Llanfrynach.....	52
Llangorse.....	71
Llan-Tallylyn.....	11
Pencelli.....	13
Pennorth and Scethrog.....	22
Sennybridge.....	273
Talybont on Usk.....	105
Trecastle.....	75
Llanfilo.....	11
Cradoc.....	15

Total : 758

Sanitary Circumstances - Cont'd

Number of visits made by Public Health Inspectors	27
Number of visits made by Public Health Inspectors to sewage works....	44
Number of effluent samples taken.....	7

Public Cleansing

All litter is removed as frequently as is found necessary from the various County Council lay-byes and the cost incurred in connection therewith is re-imbursed by that authority.

The provision of new disposal sites continues to create problems.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

The sanitary inspection of the area was undertaken by the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr W.J.Rees and the Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr R.Taylor.

Nuisances

Number of complaints received.....	77
Number of complaints investigated.....	77
Number of premises inspected	77
Number of premises re-visited	17
Number of preliminary notices served.....	7
for (a) Structural defects	4
(b) Sanitary defects.....	3
Number of Statutory Notices served.....	0

Offensive Trades There are no offensive trades in the district.

Common Lodging Houses There are no common lodging houses in the area.

Licensed Premises

Number of visits made by Public Health Inspector.....	48
Number of defects found and remedied.....	0
Number of notices served.....	0

Shops

Number of inspections made.....	53
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Sanitary Circumstances - Cont'd

Tents, Vans and Sheds

Number of visits made17
Number of notices served.....0

Eradication of Bed Bugs and steps taken to combat infestation.

Any premises found as a result of inspection or complaint to be infested with bed bugs or other vermin is treated with D.D.T preparations which have found to be very satisfactory. No premises were found to be infested during the year.

Rodent Control

Number of premises inspected6
Number of premises found infested.....6
Number of premises treated by Rodent Operator6
Number of premises treated by occupier.....0

Sewers were treated during the year in the neighbourhood of infested houses. The work of rodent destruction on farms in the rural district is the responsibility of the Council. These are classified as business premises and a charge is made for their treatment. Either a contract for 12 months can be made costing £5, or otherwise a charge is made for labour, travelling and materials used.

SECTION E

HOUSING

The following details show the position as it was at the end of the year.

Number of houses built by the Council during the year.....	20
Number of houses built by private enterprise during the year.....	12
Number of inspections under the Housing Act.....	39
Number of Notices served.....	0
Number of Houses in course of erection by the Council.	31

Improvement Grants(Discretionary) -Housing Act,1964

4 Applications were received in respect of 4 properties, all of which were approved.

Total amount of grant payable and authorised.....£1,361 .0 .0

Improvement Grants(Standard) - House Purchase Act,1964.

10 Applications were received in respect of 10 properties and were approved.

Total amount of grant recommended for payment was £1,425 .10 .0.

Housing Consolidated Regulations.1925 and 1932

The district is being inspected regularly and, as when the occasion necessitates, representation is made to the Council with a view to :-

- (a) Serving of notices requiring the execution of works, or
- (b) the making of demolition or closing orders

Demolition orders made	0
Undertakings accepted	0
Properties demolished	0
Closing Orders served.....	0
Properties closed.....	0

Offices, Shops and Railways Premises Act.

As in the case of factories, the act does not apply to premises where only self employed persons work, nor where the number of hours worked by an employee amounts to 21 hours a week or less. This is to exclude the small shop or office where paid help is only occasional.

The survey of premises in the Rural Area has been carried out. Appropriate action is now being taken to see that the requirements of the Act are complied with.

SECTION F

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The number of Food Premises in the Area are as follows :-

Clubs.....	2
Retailers	16
Ice Cream Retailers	21
Cafes.....	7
Hotels where meals are served.....	12
Fish & Chip, Shops.....	1

On the whole it can be said that the general standard of cleanliness observed was satisfactory, on no occasion had it been found necessary to serve a notice on any person engaged in the food trade.

There was no educational activity in connection with food in the district during the year as the number of persons engaged in the food trade is not very great, but in the normal course of their duties the Public Health Inspectors, in their discussions with persons in the food trade, emphasised the importance of the need for the highest standard of hygiene principle in the preparation and sale of foodstuffs to the public.

School Canteens

Visits were made to, and inspections made of school canteens and dining rooms. The attention of the Breconshire Education Committee was drawn to these premises which did not come up to the required standard by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, with a request that such improvements as were necessary to be carried out.

Meat Inspection

Number of various animals inspected.	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
	120	846	1	90

Number of registered slaughter -houses in the area.1.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Meat Inspection

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Including Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	170	1	846	90	0
Number inspected	170	1	846	90	0
<u>All Diseases except</u>					
<u>Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>					
Whole Carcases condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	28	0	46	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease	16.47	0	5.44	0	0
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcass condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	0	0	0	3	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease	0	0	0	3.33	0

Cysticerci No cases were discovered

Number of visits to Slaughterhouse:66

As there was no facilities at the slaughterhouse at Llangorse for the sterilisation of condemned meat in accordance with the above Regulations all such meat is removed by the Inspectors and buried in one of the Councils' refuse disposal sites.

Milk All milk is sampled quarterly by the County Council Food and Drugs Inspector.

Food Preparation Rooms(including bakehouses)

Number of inspections made 25

There are no bakehouses in the area.

Ice-Cream Premises

Number of Inspections made68 -

Number of samples taken68

Of these samples 2 were unsatisfactory, and 9 were fair.

Fish and Fried Fish Shops

One premises is registered in the area for the sale of fried fish. Fish sold retail from motor vans is frequently inspected and on no occasion was there cause for complaint.

APPENDIX

Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1967.
FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF BRIDGONSHIRE.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health(including the inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)		Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sects 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	7		-	-
ii. Factories not included in (1) in which Sect.7 in enforced by Local Authority.	15	19		-	-
iii. Other premises in which Sect 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding out-workers prems.)	-	-		-	-
<u>Total</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>26</u>			
2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found (If defects are discovered at the premises on two,three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more cases)					
Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.		
	Found	Remedied to HM Inspector	Referred to by HM Inspector or		
Want of Cleanliness(S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature(S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage -floors(S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not seprate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Total</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

There was no outwork done in the district during the year.

Yours faithfully,

Creighton E.Edwards.

Medical Officer of Health.

